

My name is Raymond Garon, President and General Manager of WZID, WFEA, WQLL, Manchester, NH. I am writing to express my complete disagreement with those who are propelling the notion that radio broadcasters are no longer locally oriented, the spirit behind MB Docket No. 04-233.

As a 30 year veteran of NH Radio and a very involved, active local businessman, it is offensive to me to imagine that the FCC would negate all of the good, which results from our initiatives. I can appreciate how consolidation in our industry has streamlined some efforts but by no means has it stripped our responsibilities nor our willingness to serve local audiences. The overwhelming majority of professional broadcasters in America know the ticket to success revolves around entertaining and informing the people in your town. It is imperative that you know we realize today's higher technologically based media is competing for the audience? It is imperative that you know we understand full well the answer to survival is to enhance our local content?

Allow me to present some examples of what we are doing NOW to serve our community;

Celebrating on air, with our listeners, the Red Sox World Series win.

Spanish language programming to serve the growing Latino population.

Raising \$75,000 in cash and gifts in preparation for the Christmas is for Kids Auction, a yearly fundraiser.

Building the Tons of Turkeys promotion to collect 10 TONS of turkeys for the local soup kitchen's Thanksgiving effort.

Newscasts, local and national, live every morning.

Traffic reports every morning.

French language programming to serve a large French/Canadian population.

We raised \$10,000 cash recently for Florida hurricane victims in association with the Red Cross.

I am on the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce and Palace Theatre. Past Chair of NH Association of Broadcasters. Involved with American Heart Association, Honoree of the Red Cross.

Our three stations have supported in a variety of promotional ways MS Society, American Cancer Society, United Way, NH Food Bank, Diabetes Foundation, Home Health and Hospice, NH Symphony, Northeast Law Enforcement....do you want me to continue?

We are now running PSA's for National Guard, Partnership for a Drug Free America/NH, NH Breast and Cervical Cancer.

During this political season political ads, news content and open listener feedback is airing for many Federal and State races.

Public affairs programming airs every week, hosted by our News Director.

Amber Alerts have run a number of times in the last few months.

A staff member is in charge of all EAS NH Radio coordination.

Every week we donate money or gifts or airtime to numerous charities throughout the state.

WZID was just awarded Station of the Year for the 5th time in 7 years, recognition based on LOCALISM.

You should know also that our primary competition; a group of stations owned by Clear Channel Communications has a similar track record of impressive community service.

We are proud of our obvious commitment to New Hampshire and cannot believe any body of government has to legislate the merging of goodwill and good business.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted Raymond R. Garon 10/29/04